

## In the Iowa Supreme Court

CLERK SUPREME COURT

In the Matter of Ongoing Provisions     )  
 For Coronavirus/COVID-19 Impact        )  
 On Court Services                            )     May 22, 2020 Order

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**This order replaces all previous supervisory orders relating to the spread of the novel coronavirus/COVID-19 in their entirety except for the April 6, 2020 order (Ongoing Provisions for Coronavirus/COVID-19 Impact on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Youth and Families).**<sup>1</sup> The Iowa Judicial Branch continues to carefully monitor the public health situation, balancing the need to take measures to reduce the spread of the virus with its commitment to conducting business as necessary. Accordingly, the supreme court directs as follows pursuant to its available legal authority, including Article III, section 1 and Article V, section 1 of the Iowa Constitution.

The judicial branch gratefully acknowledges the information and feedback provided by the Iowa State Association of Counties, University of Iowa College of Public Health, Iowa State Bar Association, the Jumpstart Jury Task Force, the Criminal Rules Revision Task Force, the Iowa Department of Human Services, the Iowa Department of Public Health, the dedicated employees of the judicial branch, and all the other attorneys and Iowans who have contributed their thoughts and suggestions.

This supervisory order is intended to provide an up-to-date list of the measures now in effect because of the COVID-19 outbreak and their expected duration. It is also designed to provide a timetable for the resumption of more normal court operations.

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<sup>1</sup> The April 6, 2020 supervisory order remains in effect according to its terms until June 1, 2020.

For the convenience of the reader, paragraphs that are substantively identical to provisions in prior supervisory orders are marked with a single asterisk \*. Paragraphs substantively identical except for new dates/deadlines are marked with a double asterisk \*\*.

### **EMERGENCY/ESSENTIAL MATTERS**

1. **Emergency proceedings.\*** District courts shall continue to conduct the following in-person business:

- Criminal matters that cannot be continued or conducted by videoconference or telephone (pursuant to this order or otherwise); and
- Emergency matters that cannot be conducted by videoconference or telephone.

2. **Emergency and essential services.\*** Emergency and essential services include the following:

- The protection of vulnerable people, such as the elderly, children, and persons with disabilities;
- Initial appearances, preliminary hearings, bail hearings, and arraignment for criminal defendants;
- Hearings related to quarantine orders and other public-health related matters;
- Protection orders for individuals who fear for their safety; and
- Search warrants and other law enforcement actions.

For example, emergency matters may include substance abuse treatment proceedings pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 125, hospitalization proceedings pursuant to chapter 229, removal proceedings pursuant to chapter 232, elder abuse proceedings pursuant to chapter 235B, dependent adult abuse proceedings pursuant to chapter 235F, protective orders pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 236 or 236A, motions to quash

garnishments pursuant to chapter 642, and forcible entry and detainer proceedings pursuant to chapter 648 where the tenancy poses a clear and present danger. **This list is not intended to be exclusive and judicial officers shall determine what constitutes an emergency within the meaning of this paragraph.** Judicial officers may direct that an emergency matter be conducted by videoconference or telephone.

3. **Duty to notify as to COVID-19 risk.\*** An attorney or party participating in in-person business must promptly notify opposing counsel and the respective Clerk of Court's Office if they reasonably suspect that a participant in any scheduled hearing, trial, conference, deposition, or other proceeding may have an elevated risk of transmitting the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19. Guidance on who is considered to have an elevated risk can be found on the websites for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<https://www.cdc.gov/>), the Iowa Department of Public Health (<https://idph.iowa.gov/>), and the Iowa Judicial Branch ([www.iowacourts.gov](http://www.iowacourts.gov)).
4. **Duty to inquire as to risk.\*** To the extent possible, counsel must affirmatively inquire of their clients and witnesses participating in in-person business whether they have an elevated risk of transmitting the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19.
5. **No attendance by persons at risk of transmitting COVID-19.\*** No person who has an elevated risk of transmitting the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 may personally attend any clerk of court's office, hearing, trial, conference, deposition, or other proceeding without prior authorization from the court.

#### **TRIALS AND HEARINGS (CRIMINAL AND CIVIL)**

6. **Nonjury trials.** Any nonjury trial that is scheduled to begin before July 13, 2020, shall be continued and reset to a date no earlier than July 13,

2020. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nonjury trials may commence before July 13, 2020 in specific counties if the county courthouse is open to the public and the court operations in that county meet recommended COVID-19 safety protocols as established by state court administration. Trials shall be scheduled in accordance with case priorities in the separate supervisory order issued May 22, 2020 (In the Matter of Prioritization of Cases and Duties).

7. **Resumption of nonemergency in-person hearings.** Nonemergency in-person hearings, including evidentiary hearings such as hearings on motions to suppress, shall resume according to the same schedule set forth for nonjury trials in paragraph 6.
8. **Strong encouragement to conduct civil court business other than jury trials using videoconference or telephone.** Prior to July 13, 2020, and continuing thereafter, courts, parties, and attorneys are strongly encouraged to conduct civil court business when feasible using videoconference or telephone.
9. **Trial court discretion to conduct nonjury trials or accept specific testimony by videoconference or telephone.** District courts may conduct civil nonjury trials by videoconference or telephone with the parties' consent. District courts may accept testimony by videoconference or telephone with the parties' consent or when otherwise authorized by law.
10. **Jury trials.** Any jury trial that is scheduled to begin before September 14, 2020 shall be continued and reset to a date no earlier than September 14, 2020. Prior to September 14, 2020, the Jumpstart Jury Task Force will be recommending temporary policies and procedures for the resumption of jury trials. Trials shall be scheduled in accordance with

case priorities in the separate supervisory order issued May 22, 2020 (In the Matter of Prioritization of Cases and Duties).

11. **Traffic-related proceedings.** All traffic-related proceedings are subject to the same nonjury trial and jury trial dates set forth above in paragraphs 6 and 10.
12. **Scheduling.** Judicial districts shall schedule in-person hearings and trials so as to comply with safety protocols established by state court administration, e.g., required social distancing. For example, this may necessitate limits on the number of hearings scheduled in a given time period or the allocation of specific time slots.

#### **OTHER CRIMINAL PROVISIONS**

13. **Criminal trial postponements.\*\*** As before, the court finds the COVID-19 outbreak constitutes good cause within the meaning of Iowa R. Crim. P. 2.33 for any trial postponements. In addition, because significant logistical issues – including a backlog of cases - are expected even when trials restart, the court finds good cause to extend the speedy trial deadline in rule 2.33(2)(b) beyond ninety days. Accordingly, for any case in which an indictment or information has been or is filed prior to September 14, 2020, the ninety-day deadline in rule 2.33(2)(b) and rule 2.33(2)(c) shall be expanded to 120 days, and shall be restarted with September 14, 2020 as Day 1. For any case in which an indictment or information has been or is filed prior to September 14, 2020, the one-year deadline in rule 2.33(2)(c) shall commence from June 22, 2020 or the date of filing, whichever is later.
14. **Grand jury proceedings.\*\*** All grand jury proceedings shall be suspended until September 14, 2020.
15. **Initial appearances.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, magistrates and other judicial officers may conduct initial appearances by

videoconference or telephone. As before, the defendant may waive initial appearance by executing a written waiver that provides the information that the defendant is entitled to receive at the initial appearance. *See* Iowa R. Crim. P. 2.2(1)-(4)(a). Through December 31, 2020, written waivers of initial appearance need not be under oath.

16. **Preliminary hearing.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, defendant may waive the preliminary hearing over the telephone with the court, and the waiver need not be electronically recorded or reported, so long as the court indicates in the court file that the hearing has been waived.
17. **Speedy indictment deadline.\*** Commencing March 17, 2020, for any defendant who is arrested and makes an initial appearance on or before August 3, 2020, the 45-day speedy indictment deadline in Iowa R. Crim. P. 2.33(2)(a) is extended to 60 days.
18. **Arraignment.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, written waivers of arraignment need not be under oath.
19. **Written arraignment by defense counsel.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, with the consent of the district court, defense counsel may execute a written arraignment pursuant to rule 2.8(1) on the defendant's behalf, provided that defense counsel have previously reviewed all terms of the arraignment form with the defendant and obtained the defendant's authority to execute the form on the defendant's behalf.
20. **Waiver of personal appearance.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, for a proceeding other than trial and sentencing in which the defendant's personal appearance is required under normal circumstances, the defendant may execute a written waiver of appearance, with the consent of the district court.
21. **Additional accommodation as to written waiver of personal appearance.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, with the consent of the

district court, defense counsel may execute a written waiver of appearance on defendant's behalf under paragraph 20 above provided that defense counsel has previously reviewed defendant's right to be present with the defendant and obtained the defendant's authority to execute the waiver on the defendant's behalf.

22. **Pretrial release.\*** Judicial officers are encouraged to consider pretrial release options available under Iowa Code chapter 811.
23. **Bond reviews.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, magistrates and other judicial officers may conduct bond reviews by videoconference or telephone. Attorneys may waive the defendant's presence on the defendant's behalf and allow the court to make a bond determination on written submissions or affidavits.
24. **Extension of deadline for filing pretrial motions.\*\*** Unless otherwise ordered by the court, for any case in which the defendant has been arraigned before July 13, 2020, the deadline for filing motions shall be 30 days before trial.
25. **Pretrial motion hearings may be continued.\*\*** The supreme court clarifies that if the defendant does not waive personal appearance, the district court has authority to continue any hearing on pretrial motions (including a hearing on a motion to suppress) until a date July 13, 2020, or later that allows a reasonable time for determination of motions before the trial date.
26. **Written guilty pleas.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, district courts may accept written guilty pleas in felony cases in the same manner as in serious and aggravated misdemeanor cases. See Iowa R. Crim. P. 2.8(2)(b) (last paragraph).
27. **Additional accommodation as to written guilty pleas.\*** Through August 3, 2020, defense counsel may execute a written guilty plea on

defendant's behalf under Iowa R. Crim. P. 2.8(2)(b) by complying with the following steps: (a) defense counsel shall provide the entire guilty plea form to the defendant by electronic communication (e.g., email, text, or fax) and explain the terms of the plea by videoconference or telephone; (b) the defendant shall provide an electronic communication to defense counsel confirming that the defendant has reviewed the entire guilty plea form and agrees and acknowledges in all places where the defendant's agreement and acknowledgment are requested and, further, authorizes defense counsel to execute the guilty plea on defendant's behalf; (c) defense counsel shall execute the guilty plea form on defendant's behalf in all places where the defendant's agreement and acknowledgment are requested; and (d) defense counsel shall submit to the district court (i) the completed form, (ii) a copy of the defendant's electronic communication, and (iii) a written certification that defense counsel has explained the terms of the plea to the defendant. The district court has discretion whether to accept a plea pursuant to this paragraph and may, among other things, require defense counsel and/or the defendant to appear by videoconference or telephone before deciding whether to accept the plea. The availability of this procedure is limited to misdemeanors and class D felonies.

28.       **Presentence investigation reports.\*\*** To facilitate sentencing without the personal presence of the defendant in the courtroom, through December 31, 2020, notwithstanding Iowa Code section 901.4, presentence investigation reports may be shared with defendants in advance of sentencing subject to reasonable safeguards.

29.       **Sentencing procedures by remote appearance.\*\*** For felony or misdemeanor sentencing hearings through December 31, 2020, district courts may allow any party (the prosecutor, defense counsel, defendant,



victims and witnesses) to appear by videoconference or telephone with that party's consent. To appear by videoconference or telephone, the defendant shall either (a) execute a written waiver or (b) make a waiver on the record. Other parties need not execute a waiver.

30. **Sentencing in felony matters by written agreement with court approval.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, where the prosecutor and the defendant have reached an agreement as to sentence, and the agreement is accepted by the court, the court has the discretion to pronounce judgment and sentence by written order without the parties appearing by videoconference or telephone, provided the following conditions are met: (a) the defendant and defense counsel each must waive in writing the defendant's presence and right of allocution (the defendant may of course submit a written statement), (b) the prosecutor must submit a written statement waiving presence and verifying that there are no victims who want to be heard in person, and (c) the agreement as to sentence must be signed by the defendant and both the agreement and the court's approval must be made a part of the court file.
31. **Sentencing may be continued.\*** The supreme court clarifies that through August 3, 2020, if the defendant does not waive personal appearance, the district court has authority to continue sentencing until a later date.

#### **OTHER CIVIL PROVISIONS**

32. **Original notices.\*\*** For all original notices to be served in accordance with Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure 1.302, 1.305, or 1.306, and if the deadline for the original notice falls between March 23, 2020, and July 13, 2020, the serving party is granted through July 13, 2020, to complete service.

33. **Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.944.\*** In accordance with Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.944(1), the court recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on judicial branch services constitute an “unusual circumstance.” Consequently, all cases currently subject to dismissal under rule 1.944(2) if not tried before January 1, 2021 are provided a one-time, one-year automatic extension of the deadline for commencement of trial through December 31, 2021. Rule 1.944(2) notices will not be issued this year for such cases and parties to such cases are not required to file an application for removal from the operation of rule 1.944(2). In 2021, the judicial branch will resume issuing rule 1.944(2) notices in accordance with the normal operation of the rule for all cases that have been pending over one year as of July 15, 2021.
34. **Mediation.\*\*** Any mediation set to occur at a courthouse location before July 13, 2020 shall be continued or directed to occur by videoconference or telephone, at the discretion of the district court. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a mediation set to occur at a courthouse may commence before July 13, 2020 in specific counties if the county courthouse is open to the public and the court operations in that county meet recommended COVID-19 safety protocols as established by state court administration. This paragraph does not apply to mediations at other locations.
35. **Iowa Rule of Probate Procedure 7.6.\*\*** The court suspends the operation of Iowa Rule of Probate Procedure 7.6 concerning the delinquency of final reports and attorney discipline in delays to estate closures through December 31, 2020.
36. **Signature on civil court documents—Iowa Rule of Electronic Procedure 16.305(3).\*\*** The court temporarily modifies rule 16.305(3) of the Iowa Rules of Electronic Procedure to allow a person to sign a civil

court document electronically with “/s/” followed by the person’s typed full name or with “/person’s name/” through December 31, 2020. If the document is a civil court form that includes the signature block of identifying information, including the person’s address, telephone number, and email address, that information must be provided with the electronic signature. See Comment to Iowa Ct. R. 16.305(4).

Attorneys are permitted through December 31, 2020 to sign civil court documents for their clients with “/s/” if the attorney has received oral verification from the client that (a) the client desires to sign the document, (b) the client authorizes the attorney to sign on the client’s behalf, and (c) the client understands that the signature will bind the client as if the client signed the document personally. This temporary permission also applies to notices of appeal in termination-of-parental-rights and child-in-need-of-assistance cases. See Iowa Ct. R. 6.102(1)(a).

A notary public signature cannot be electronic “/s/” or “/person’s name/.” Notaries public are encouraged to follow the Iowa Secretary of State’s March 25, 2020 media release and any updated releases since that date. This temporary amendment of rule 16.305(3) is limited to civil matters only, including notice of appeal filings brought under chapter 232.

### **FORCIBLE ENTRY AND DETAINER PROVISIONS**

37. **Forcible entry and detainer proceedings.** Forcible entry and detainer (“FED”) proceedings, other than emergency matters covered by paragraphs 1 and 2 above, are subject to the same nonjury trial dates set forth above in paragraph 6 or shall be conducted by videoconference or telephone, at the discretion of the magistrate or other judicial officer. The small claims division shall retain jurisdiction for all proceedings continued as a result of the court’s supervisory orders.

38. **CARES Act verification.** Any plaintiff bringing an FED action under chapter 648 for nonpayment of rent after the date of this order shall submit a CARES Act verification in a form approved by this court. This requirement shall continue in effect until further order of this court. The information provided in the CARES Act verification shall be for the purpose of assisting the court in regard to whether the CARES Act applies to the matter before the court; however, the CARES Act verification is not a jurisdictional requirement and any defect with such verification shall not divest the court of subject matter jurisdiction over the matter.
39. **Timing of FED hearing.** Although Iowa Code section 648.5(1) requires the date of hearing to be set no later than eight or, in certain circumstances, fifteen days from the filing date, the court recognizes that a number of factors may result in the scheduling of FED hearings beyond that fifteen-day time period. These factors include hearings that are continued to a later date in compliance with a state or federal moratorium, a backlog of cases accumulated due to the postponement of in-person hearings, the possibility of a large volume of cases being filed after the expiration of state or federal moratoria, and the need to schedule hearings to comply with COVID-related safety protocols established by state court administration. Accordingly, the court clarifies that the requirement of a hearing within fifteen days is not jurisdictional, and that it is not a bar to an FED action being heard if the court, for scheduling reasons or to comply with the state and federal moratoria, is unable to hear the action by the deadline established in section 648.5(1).
40. **Peaceable possession.** Although Iowa Code section 648.18 provides that “[t]hirty days peaceable possession with the knowledge of the plaintiff after the cause of action accrues is a bar to this proceeding,” the court clarifies that the section 648.18 bar does not apply where the

plaintiff could not have initiated proceedings under chapter 648 due to a state or federal moratorium.

### **JUVENILE JUSTICE PROVISIONS<sup>2</sup>**

41. **Non-delinquency matters.\*\*** Non-delinquency juvenile matters set to commence before July 13, 2020 shall be either continued to a date no earlier than July 13, 2020 or conducted with the parties and/or participants appearing remotely using videoconference or telephone at the discretion of the court. Notwithstanding the foregoing, non-delinquency juvenile matters may commence in-person hearings before July 13, 2020 in specific counties if the county courthouse is open to the public and the court operations in that county meet recommended COVID-19 safety protocols as established by state court administration.
42. **Delinquency matters.\*** Juvenile delinquency proceedings shall be subject to any of the foregoing criminal proceeding directives that by their nature would apply to juvenile delinquency cases.

### **PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS**

43. **Use of technology encouraged.\*** The problem-solving court should conduct conferences and hearings using videoconference or telephone when it believes it would be practical and efficient to do so and justice permits. Notwithstanding the foregoing, problem-solving court conferences and hearings may commence in-person before July 13, 2020 in specific counties if the county courthouse is open to the public and the court operations in that county meet recommended COVID-19 safety protocols as established by state court administration.

### **APPELLATE ORAL ARGUMENTS**

44. **Appellate oral arguments.** In-person oral arguments before the appellate courts shall resume no earlier than July 13, 2020. At the court's

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<sup>2</sup> For other juvenile justice provisions, see the April 6, 2020 supervisory order.

discretion, oral arguments may be conducted using videoconference or telephone through December 31, 2020. Additionally, at the court's discretion, cases previously scheduled for oral argument may be submitted nonorally. See Iowa R. App. P. 6.908(2).

### **STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

45.       **Tolling.\*** Any statute of limitations, statute of repose, or similar deadline for commencing an action in district court is hereby tolled from March 17, 2020 to June 1, 2020 (76 days). Tolling means that amount of time to the statute of limitations or similar deadline. The 76 days of tolling will apply if the deadline for commencing the action would otherwise expire *any time from March 17, 2020 to December 31, 2020*. In other words, if the statute would otherwise run on July 7, 2020, it now runs on September 21, 2020 (76 days later). However, after December 31, 2020, any tolling will be phased out and eliminated. Thus, if the deadline for commencing the action would otherwise expire on any date from December 31, 2020 to March 16, 2021 (the 76<sup>th</sup> day of 2021), inclusive, that deadline would become March 17, 2021, and thereafter there would be no tolling at all.

### **FAMILY LAW**

46.       **Online courses.\*\*** District courts may approve attendance at an online course for purposes of compliance with Iowa Code section 598.15 (required course for cases involving child custody or visitation) through December 31, 2020.
47.       **Child custody, care, or visitation.\*** For purposes of determining a parent's right of physical custody, care, or visitation to a child under a previously entered court order, any custody, visitation or care schedule that is related to a school schedule shall be uniformly interpreted to refer to the school schedule for the school where the child attends that was in place prior to any school closure or suspension caused by the COVID-19

virus. Custody, care, or visitation of a child shall follow a schedule as if school is in session and shall not be impacted or modified by the school closure. A school closure caused by the COVID-19 virus does not extend or modify a parent's custody, care, or visitation beyond any period designated in a prior court order. A school closure caused by the COVID-19 virus does not amount to an extension of spring break or the beginning of summer break. A parent currently exercising custody, care, or visitation of a child in violation of a court order should immediately return the child to the original court ordered schedule.

Nothing contained in this order prevents both parents of a minor child from mutually agreeing to modify a previous court order. Nothing contained in this order prevents a court from altering, amending, modifying, clarifying, or enforcing court orders within its sound discretion and consistent with the law of this State. Further, this order does not limit the ability of the court to hear and address emergency matters on a case-by-case basis in the discretion of the court.

48. **Family Law Task Force.** The Jumpstart Family Law Task Force will be recommending temporary policies and procedures for family law matters as Iowa courts work toward the resumption of normal operations.

#### **OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**

49. **Unmoderated CLE cap.\*** The six-hour cap on unmoderated CLE set forth in Rule 41.3(3) is hereby temporarily lifted for the 2020-21 reporting period.
50. **Remote meetings.\*\*** Meetings of the Board of Law Examiners, Attorney Disciplinary Board, Commission on Continuing Legal Education, Client Security Commission, Lawyers Trust Account Commission, Commission on the Unauthorized Practice of Law, and the Board of

Examiners of Shorthand Reporters, may be held by videoconference or telephone through December 31, 2020.

51. **Electronic complaint submissions.\*** Complaints against attorneys pursuant to Rule 35.2, claims of the unauthorized practice of law pursuant to Rule 38.5, and claims for reimbursement from the Client Security Commission pursuant to Rules 39.9 and Chapter 40, may be made through December 31, 2020 using an electronic submission form, which will be available on the court's website.
52. **Remote hearings.\*\*** Hearings set forth in Chapters 31, 34, 35, 36, 42, 46, and 47 shall be held through December 31, 2020 by videoconference or telephone. This includes hearings that are currently scheduled. However, upon request of the respondent, Chapter 36 hearings shall be held in person but no earlier than July 13, 2020. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in-person Chapter 36 hearings may commence before July 13, 2020 if the hearing locale meets recommended COVID-19 safety protocols as established by state court administration.
53. **Electronic filing.\*\*** All parties to Grievance Commission proceedings shall participate in the electronic filing option set forth in Rule 36.6 through December 31, 2020. This includes matters that are currently in litigation.
54. **Client Security Commission.\*\*** The Client Security Commission is hereby authorized through December 31, 2020 to be appointed as a trustee under Rule 34.17 and Rule 34.18 without need for supreme court confirmation. Upon termination of a Rule 34.17 or Rule 34.18 trusteeship or upon the request of the Client Security Commission, all remaining attorney files may be ordered immediately destroyed.
55. **Annual attorney report late fees.\*\*** The attorney annual report late fees set forth Rule 39.8(1) (Client Security report) and Rule 41.4(4) (CLE



report) shall remain at \$100 per report *until June 11, 2020*. After that date late fees for both reports shall return to the amount set forth in the rules, i.e., \$250 per report as of June 12, 2020. *Attorneys who have not yet filed their required annual reports are highly encouraged to do so before the higher late fees are reinstated and suspension proceedings begin.*

#### **GENERAL**

56. **Temporary authorization of filing by email for certain nonregistered self-represented and exempt persons.\*\*** Through December 31, 2020, the court temporarily authorizes filing by email (a) for all self-represented persons who have not already registered for EDMS and (b) for all persons excused from the EDMS registration and electronic filing requirements pursuant to rule 16.302(3) who have not already registered for EDMS filing. Persons who are already registered EDMS filers must continue to file all court documents through the EDMS system as usual. To file by email, the self-represented or exempt person must first contact the appropriate clerk of court to get the appropriate email address to receive the filing. The self-represented or exempt person must then email the filing to the clerk in PDF format, who will then file the document.

The document should not be considered filed until the self-represented or exempt person receives a confirmatory email from the clerk that the filing has been made. The clerk's acceptance of such emailed documents does not waive the filer's obligation to comply with court rules regarding appropriate redaction and service of the emailed documents. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 16 of the Iowa Court Rules, small claims actions may be filed in paper (not only EDMS) through December 13, 2020.

57. **Travel.\*\*** The court suspends any requirement that judges and court reporters travel together to and from court hearings through December 31, 2020.
58. **Contrary provisions suspended.\*** The court temporarily suspends the operation of any Iowa Court Rule or statute to the extent that it is contrary to any provisions of this order.
59. **Ongoing monitoring.\*** The court will continue to monitor circumstances and update this order as necessary.

**THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA**

By 

Susan Larson Christensen, Chief Justice

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